**Shortage of Teachers in Tamil Nadu**

302. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of teachers in colleges/universities in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is also a fact that universities are not able to meet the demand of industry and institutions for IT professional; and

(c) what steps Government would take to provide suitable IT professionals in Tamil Nadu and in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Higher Education for Poor**

†303. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that higher education is getting out of reach of lower sections of society;

(b) if so, whether Government are contemplating to take any concrete steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.